

*An Act for indemnifying Persons who have incurred certain Penalties inflicted by an Act of the last Session of Parliament, for granting certain Stamp Duties in the British Colonies and Plantations in America; and for making valid all Instruments executed or inrolled there on unstamped Paper, Vellum, or Parchment.*

**W**HEREAS by an Act made in the last Session of Parliament, entitled, *An Act for granting and applying certain Stamp Duties, and other Duties, in the British Colonies and Plantations in America, towards further defraying the Expences of defending, protecting, and securing, the same; and for amending such Parts of the several Acts of Parliament relating to the Trade and Revenues of the said Colonies and Plantations, as direct the Manner of determining and recovering the Penalties and Forfeitures therein mentioned;* certain Stamp Duties were granted throughout the Colonies and Plantations in America, which then were, or thereafter might be, under the Dominion of his Majesty, his Heirs, and Successors; which said Stamp Duties were to take Place from and after the First Day of November, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty-Five: And whereas by another Act made in this present Session of Parliament, entitled, *An Act to repeal an Act made in the last Session of Parliament, entitled, An Act for granting and applying certain Stamp Duties, and other Duties, in the British Colonies and Plantations in America, towards further defraying the Expences of defending, protecting, and securing, the same; and for amending such Parts of the several Acts of Parliament relating to the Trade and Revenues of the said Colonies and Plantations, as direct the Manner of determining and recovering the Penalties and Forfeitures therein mentioned;* the said first mentioned Act was repealed, from and after the First Day of June, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty-Six: And whereas it may have happened, since the passing of the said first mentioned Act, that Persons residing in, or resorting to, the said Colonies or Plantations, may not have been able to procure Paper, Vellum, or Parchment, duly stamped, as required by the said Act; and that such Persons, for want of the same, and other Persons residing elsewhere by reason thereof, may have committed many Offences, contrary to the Directions, and true Intent and Meaning, of the said Act; or may have neglected to do what by the said Act is required; whereby such Persons have incurred several Penalties and Forfeitures by the said Act inflicted: Therefore, for quieting the Minds of His Majesty's Subjects, and for preventing any Inconveniencies that might otherwise happen; be it enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That all and every Person and Persons whatsoever, who have committed any Offence or Offences (not being Felony) contrary to the Directions, and true Intent and Meaning, of the said Act, or have neglected to do any Matter or Thing required by the said Act, shall be, and he, she, and they, is and are indemnified from all Penalties and Forfeitures which he, she, or they, may have incurred for such Offence or Offences, (not being Felony) Neglect or Neglects, where final Judgment shall not have been given.

And whereas it was, by the said first mentioned Act, enacted, That no Matter or Thing whatsoever, by the said Act charged with

the Payment of a Duty, should be pleaded or given in Evidence, or admitted, within the said Colonies and Plantations, to be good, useful, or available, in Law or Equity, unless the same should be marked or stamped, in pursuance of the said Act, with the respective Duty thereby charged, or with an higher Duty: And whereas it may have happened that many Deeds, Instruments, and other Matters and Things, by reason that stamped Paper, Vellum, or Parchment, was not to be procured, may have been signed, sealed, or otherwise executed, entered, or inrolled, in the said Colonies and Plantations, upon unstamped Paper, Vellum, or Parchment; and, by reason thereof, cannot be pleaded or given in Evidence, or admitted to be good, useful, or available, in Law or Equity: And whereas by the said Act being repealed, there remains no Provision for making the said Deeds, Instruments, Matters, and Things, pleadable, or to be given in Evidence, or admissible as good, useful, or available, in Law or Equity, which may be attended with many Inconveniencies; be it therefore enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That all and every Deed, Instrument, or other Matter or Thing, signed, sealed, or otherwise executed, entered, or inrolled, in the said Colonies and Plantations, during the Continuance of the said Act, upon unstamped Paper, Vellum, or Parchment, shall and may, from and after the passing of this Act, be admitted and allowed in Evidence in any Court whatsoever; and shall be as valid and effectual as if the proper Stamps had been impressed thereon at the Time of the Signing, Sealing, or other Execution, or Entry or Inrollment thereof; any Thing in the said Act to the contrary notwithstanding.

S M Y R N A, April 8.

**A**FTER the Bombardment of Trebisonde, a City of Natolia, which lasted from the 9<sup>th</sup> to the 16<sup>th</sup> of the preceding Month, Prince Heraclius of Georgia, whose Army increases still every Day, advanced as it were in Triumph towards Nova-Czarca, which opened her Gates to him: He is at present carrying on the Siege of Amasia, one of the strongest Towns in the Province, about 12 Leagues from the Black-Sea. The Ottoman Army, commanded by our Bashaw, encamps under Nicomedis. All our Fortresses swarm with Janissaries. Cannon has just been brought us from Scutari. Gallies filled with Soldiers and Ammunition have likewise been sent to us for the Defence of our Port. Nevertheless, if we may believe some intelligent Persons we now touch on the Moment when we shall re-enter under the Dominion of the Greeks: But others, perhaps not so well informed of the Forces and Skill of Prince Heraclius, as well as of his Connections with foreign Powers, persuade themselves that the Georgians will soon fall again into the most cruel Servitude, and along with them all the Christians of this Empire.

Paris, May 26. It is reported here, though perhaps without Foundation, that in Spain one Insurrection breaks out after another; that Bread is sold there at 12 Sols a Pound; that no Man is safe there: that the national Troops will not act against the Rebels, and that 20 Squadrons of French Troops have received Orders to march instantly to Madrid. We wait impatiently to hear the dreaded Consequences of this Calamity. We are likewise informed, that in May 1765, a great Revolution happened at Quito, the Capital of Peru, in the West-Indies. What Foundation there is for this News, Time will evince.

May 28. The following are the Circumstances of a Revolution, which is very confidently said to

have happened, on the 22<sup>d</sup> of May 1765, in the City of Quito, the Capital of the Government of Peru.

A Lady of the City writ on that Day a Note to Don Juan Diarc Henexa, Director of the Custom-House, newly established there, recommending to him to make his Escape directly, unless he chose to lose his Life in a cruel Manner. Henexa, availing himself of this Notice, took refuge with the Auditor and the President of the Royal Audience, in the Convent of St. Dominica. In Reality, at the coming on of Night, a large Multitude ran and set Fire to the Custom-House, thinking the Director was there still. Sixty Persons perished in the Tumult, and the Fire consumed among other Things, 14,000 Quadruples in Specie. The People assembled also in all the Quarters of the City; and what is incredible is, that at the same Hour all the Inhabitants of that vast Country, composed of upwards of 2800 Cities, Towns and Villages, were in Motion, and assembled in Confusion.

The most illustrious Bishop of Quito, feeling with Horror, a general and premeditated Rebellion, proposed a Capitulation, which was accepted only on the following Conditions.

- I. That all European Foreigners should be obliged to quit the City in Eight Days.
- II. That the Artillery, warlike Stores, and Arms, which were in the King's Magazine, should be delivered up to the Rebels without Delay.
- III. That they should settle, as a fundamental Law, an Exemption from all Manner of Tribute.
- IV. That all the Slaves should be made free by an Indulto General.
- V. That the Criminals, detained in the Prisons, should be set at Liberty.

In Consequence of the first Article, all the Foreigners, that were at Quito, quitted the City under the Disguise of Priests and Monks, and abandoned their Effects.

It is added, that the Conspirators, in order to shake off entirely the Spanish Yoke, have pretended to elect a King in the Person of the Count de Herba Florida, Viceroy, who in Spite of his Protestations, "That he would rather die, than take away the Crown from his lawful Sovereign," was forced, with the Dagger at his Throat, to suffer himself to be proclaimed King of Quito.

The Bishop of Quito, endeavouring to escape, was made Prisoner at Sight.

This News came to the Vice-Roy of Santa-Fe by an extraordinary Courier, dispatched from Santa Martha, on the 3<sup>d</sup> of October, 1765. And since we have been informed, that the Vice-Roy at Santa-Fe, not finding himself in Safety in his own House, had retired at first into a Convent of Monks; but that he afterwards quitted it, in order to go to Houda, having abandoned all the Affairs of his Government.

L O N D O N, May 25.

They write from Leghorn, that in a late Assembly of the Corsicans in Paoli's Interest, it was unanimously agreed to Muster every third Male, from 16 Years upwards, in Case Necessity should require their being summoned into the Field for the Service of their Country.

The Admiral Stevens Packet, lately arrived from the East Indies, has brought over a little Horse and Mare for his Royal Highness's Prince of Wales; the former of which is no more than 30 Inches high. The little Mare is the greater Curiosity, as she is at this Time very Big with Foal. Both the Mare and Horse are at present in a Park belonging to Lady Clive near Blackheath.

They write from Gibraltar, that fresh Disputes have lately broke out between the Dutch and Algerines, on Account of the former having been detected in fraudulently disposing of their Mediterranean Passes to Foreigners.

A Number of Indians, Men, Women and Children, to the Amount of 500 at least, were seen by the Company of the Dolphin Man of War, from the East Indies; they were at least eight Feet and an Half high, rode on Horses not more than 14 or 15 Hands high, and were Clad in the Skins of a Beast unknown to this Country. These People were seen on the East Side of the